

The Library Assistant:

The Official Organ of the Library Assistants' Association.

No. 126.

JUNE, 1908.

Published Monthly

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE.

The **Annual Meeting and Conference** will be held, at the invitation of the Islington Libraries' Staff Club, at the **Central Library, Islington**, on **Wednesday, June 10th**. As this is the most important Meeting of the year, the Committee would be glad to see a very large attendance. Provincial members will be cordially welcomed by their London brethren. Some important changes in the constitution of the Association are proposed, and it would be well if every member considered them carefully. We need scarcely draw attention to the fact that this is the first time that the Association has been entertained by a library staff club or guild; and that the gathering takes place in one of the newest and most advanced of London libraries.

AGENDA :—

- 4.30 p.m. Assemble in the Lending Library. The members will be shewn over the various departments and methods will be explained.
- 5.0 p.m. Counting of Ballot for Committee. (All forms should be handed to the Hon. Secretary before 5 p.m.)
- 5.30 p.m. Tea.
- 6.30 p.m. **Discussion Meeting.** Paper: "The Library Assistants' Outlook from the Provincial Point of View," by Mr. G. W. STROTHER, (*Leeds*), *President of the Yorkshire Branch, L.A.A.*
- 8.0 p.m. **Annual Business Meeting.** Consideration of proposed changes in Constitution (see accompanying Agenda of Motions). Announcement of result of ballot for Committee. **Chairman's Address:** "Librarianship during the Year."

Routes to Islington :—The Central Library is in Holloway Road. Omnibuses from all parts to Highbury Corner, from which point the Library is only a few minutes' walk. Higgate car from Moorgate Street passes the door. Train from Broad Street (N.L.R.), to Highbury. Great Northern and City Tube to Highbury.

NORTH-EASTERN BRANCH.

The **Inaugural Meeting** of the North-Eastern Branch of the L.A.A. will be held at the **Central Library, Newcastle-upon-Tyne**, on **Wednesday, June 3rd, 1908**.

The programme is as follows—

6.0 p.m. Afternoon tea, by invitation of the Senior Staff, Newcastle-upon-Tyne Public Libraries.

6.15 p.m. Meeting of the Committee.

6.30 p.m. Business meeting in Lending Library.

Address by Mr. W. C. BERWICK SAVERS, Hon. Secretary of the Library Assistants' Association, on "Our Place among the Professions." Paper by Mr. J. BRIGGS (Newcastle-upon-Tyne). "Concerning the Juvenile Library."

Facilities will be given to view the Library, and a most interesting meeting is anticipated. All assistants in the district are cordially invited.

Particulars as to membership of the new Branch may be obtained of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. T. E. Turnbull, Public Library, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

The next meeting of the Yorkshire Branch will be held at the **Sheffield Public Library**, by kind invitation of the Libraries Committee, on **Thursday, June 25th**.

The members will be privileged to hear an address from DR. E. A. BAKER, M.A., Hon. Secretary of the Education Committee of the Library Association, on "Means for Education for Library Assistants in the Provinces."

Following this address there will be a paper by Mr. N. Treliiving (Leeds), on "Branch Libraries."

Members will receive full particulars of the meeting in due course.

L.A.A. ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion this year will be to Epping Forest, and the date fixed is Wednesday, July 8th. On this occasion Mr. G. E. Roebuck, Chief Librarian, is generously acting as host.

This opportunity of spending a few hours in the sylvan glades of the Forest, amidst some of the most delightful scenery in England, should not be missed, and there should be a large gathering.

Cheap tickets will be issued from Liverpool Street Station, at a cost not exceeding 1s. return, and members will be entertained to tea at the Town Hall, Walthamstow. Further particulars will appear next month, or may be obtained from Mr. W. Geo. Chambers, Public Library, Plumstead.

APPOINTMENT.

Mr. E. BISHOP, Junior Assistant, Woolwich, to be Second Assistant, Enfield.

Member of the L.A.A.

NEW MEMBERS.

All members of the North-Eastern Branch whose names are recorded on page 154.

As we go to press we learn, with deepest regret, of the death on **May 25th** at Topsham, near Exeter, of Mrs. Soper, wife of Mr. H. Tapley Soper, a former Editor of this journal. We offer our heartfelt sympathy to Mr. Soper in his sad bereavement.

THE CENTRAL CONTROL OF LIBRARIES AND ITS ADVANTAGES.*

By J. FREDERICK HOGG, *Sub-Librarian, Battersea Public Libraries.*

The library movement during the last twenty years has attained to a far higher degree of usefulness than it had hitherto reached since the passing of the Act of 1850. The practical utility of our buildings is receiving more consideration at the hands of architects, and in some cases the librarian has even been consulted in connection with the preparation of plans for a new building, thus combining usefulness from the librarian's standpoint with the æsthetic ideas of the architect. To our ordinary newsrooms we have added ladies' and children's reading rooms. We have adopted, according to our individual ideas, time-saving methods of issuing books. Classification and cataloguing have been treated in a more scientific manner, but the last word has not yet been said on these subjects. Library lectures for adults and children, and the organisation of University Extension lecture courses have also crept into our work.

These advances have been of immense benefit to the public, but I ask your consideration this evening of a few thoughts concerning the unification of the library service. Being a Londoner, I shall naturally take London to illustrate my scheme, but there should be no difficulty in all the county areas in England working on similar lines.

We claim for our profession some share with the elementary schools and polytechnics in the educational work of London. Encouragement is given the children to make use of our libraries by the provision of special rooms, where they may find healthy periodicals of a kind dear to the young mind. A class containing suitable instructive and recreative books is kept for their home reading, and in some boroughs short lectures on their favourite authors and works are occasionally given. We appeal to the youths who are studying for examinations in connection with their particular trade or profession by supplying, as far as possible, in the lending and reference departments, the best technical works on all subjects. Furthermore, are we not justified in claiming that every book used in the reference library, and the majority of the works borrowed from the lending department, are silent teachers of the individuals using them? A constant stream of knowledge is being drawn out of the wells of literature to which there can be no ending. Therefore, we are fully justified in calling our libraries educational institutions, and on these grounds I claim that the Lon-

*Read at the May meeting of the Library Assistants' Association.

don County Council, through its Education Committee, is the proper controlling body of our work.

What is the condition of affairs at present? The management of each of the London libraries is in the hands of the councillors of the borough in which it is situated—the work of administration being deputed to a small committee. No doubt these councillors are a well-meaning set of gentlemen, but when we consider that the greater number of them seek election mainly because of their interest in sanitation, road repairs, lighting, etc., we must realise that our work does not appeal to them to the extent that it deserves. There would be a far better chance of success if it were controlled by a body whose members are elected in some measure because of their desire to promote the cause of education.

For the efficient working of a machine all parts must act in unison, and so for the effective working of libraries they should be regulated in the same manner. Uniformity of administration would produce better results. To explain my meaning further, we will take, for example, the case of a family moving from one part of London to another. It is necessary for the child to be transferred to a different school. Your first thought will be that the change will be detrimental to the child's education. Not so. The school hours and holidays are precisely the same, the particular subjects or parts of subjects taught in one class in the South of London are the same in the North, and the scholar moving from one district to another continues his studies as if nothing had happened except the transformation of the building.

But the public library borrower who seeks to educate himself is in an altogether different and oftentimes bewildering position. He will find the system of administration in his new district quite unlike that to which he has been accustomed. Hours of opening and closing the library will vary. Thursday instead of Wednesday will be the day appointed to close at one o'clock. Regulations for borrowing will be more or less stringent. He may have to be guaranteed for the safe return of the books, or he may not. One authority may be generous, and grant him two tickets, while another will only trust him with one.

In certain boroughs the library stock-taking is scrambled through in a week. Others, with more thorough-going tendencies, will take a fortnight. A few districts imagine they can take stock without closing the department—a very doubtful proceeding.

No doubt I shall be charged with advocating a system which would abolish all individuality from our work, but that is far from my desire. With the proper central control these differ-

ences in administration must disappear. In every school the like period or portion of a subject is taught in the same class, but no one expects that every teacher will instruct his students in the same style. His personality will show itself in the manner in which he gives the lesson. So with the librarian. In the management of his staff, in the classification of his books and in the production of his catalogue, he can give proof of his individuality. Opinions are bound to vary considerably on many points connected with the two last-mentioned fields of labour, and the librarian's capability and fitness for his office will show itself in these most important branches of the work. I would remind those gentlemen who propose a committee of experts in cataloguing, to which librarians may submit any difficult points that may arise in the course of their work, that it has been truly said "It is wise to learn even from our enemies, but rarely safe to instruct our friends."

A reader's ticket should be available for any of the London libraries, which then could be used without misgiving between stated hours on every week-day. Originally they should be issued from the district in which the borrower resides. A householder whose name appears on the current register of electors should be granted a ticket without further guarantee, but lodgers and juveniles should be required to obtain the security of a householder. The duplication of service is a matter requiring serious attention. Just as some parliamentarians object to plural voting, so should objection be taken to a reader having the use of four or six tickets. A case was brought to my notice of a person who lodged in one borough, was employed in the next, and went home for the week's end to another, and who used all three libraries. Apart from the unfairness of this, it must mean an unnecessary expenditure on books, most of them probably fiction. The tradesman who pays a larger share towards the upkeep of the library than the average working-man has to be content with his one or two tickets, and then finds a difficulty in getting the works he may require because of the outsider. I must admit that the chief culprits in this direction are the City institute libraries, which are not rate-supported; yet if the lending departments of these institutions were limited only to those persons who are rate-payers or residents in the City, and better equipped technical reference departments were formed for the general public use, their value as educational institutions would be greatly enhanced. The practice referred to is also in vogue in some of the borough libraries, and I am told that if it were discontinued, the result would be a decrease of the number of borrowers by about fifty per cent.

Then there are the libraries at the elementary schools, with a small selection of books not in any way sufficient to supply all the children of a reading age. Those who are fortunate enough to be among the few privileged to have access to them are also in the great majority of cases, readers at the public library. Let these books be sent to the library (they are mostly duplicate of what will be found on our shelves), and leave the teacher free to do the work for which he was appointed. By all means in his power he should encourage the children to use the library, but the librarian is the most reliable authority in assisting an individual student to the best sources of literature for the study of any particular subject. The money saved by the prevention of the duplication of service could then be used in forming up-to-date technical reference libraries for London. They should be housed in the most central building in the northern, southern, eastern, and western districts.

The financial administration would be undertaken by the Controller of the London County Council. A penny rate should be levied on the whole of the county, and to this should be added a grant towards the maintenance of the juvenile libraries out of the money hitherto spent on the upkeep of the individual school collections. After deductions for the special technical libraries the surplus should be allocated to the various boroughs according to the work done, as shown by its statistics of issues. The removal of the rate limit would be a splendid thing and would free us from the constant anxiety of keeping within the bounds of a fixed income. But I am rather a pessimist on the point, and I believe it would be easier to get the rate raised to a twopenny limit than to obtain its abolition. This could be made a clause in the Bill which would be necessary authorising the Council to take over the control of the London libraries.

The consideration of the staff I have left till the last because it appears to me that very little alteration would be necessary. A man of wide experience in library administration, who would be the Council's advisory chief, would certainly have to be appointed Director of Libraries. He would be consulted as to the ability of candidates for new appointments or promotions, the suitability of plans for new buildings, and the preparation of all statistical work. The accuracy of accounts and the salary lists would also be in his charge. The present borough librarians would be styled District Librarians. Their responsibilities would be as now, with the exception that they would be relieved of the greater part of the committee work. A visiting committee, meeting once a quarter in each library, would be sufficient. Assistants should be first, second, and third class; entry to the third class to be obtained only on satisfactorily passing a

competitive examination. This system should bring a fairly well educated class of youth into the library, and one interested in literature. Promotions from third to second class, and second to first class should be conditional on the assistants obtaining a proportion of the professional certificates issued by the examining body in power. This would go a great way towards keeping out the man who has been a failure in the business of his first choice, and is conceited enough to fancy that he would be quite successful as a librarian. No doubt influence would still play some part in the making of appointments, but it would not be so easily obtained from a governing body elected from such a wide area as the County of London.

This has been my dream of a uniform library service since 1901, when in the discussion on Mr. Savage's paper, "The Library of the Future," I advocated the control of London libraries by the London County Council. Others are dreaming of the same thing, for there is scarcely a professional meeting at which we do not hear some comments on the need of more uniformity in our library service, and that, I submit, can only be obtained by central control.

MAY MEETING.

A meeting of the Association was held at the Public Library, Twickenham, by kind invitation, on Wednesday, May 13th. There was only a moderate attendance.

Tea was kindly provided by the Rev. Prebendary H. P. Prosser, M.A., Chairman of the Public Libraries Committee, and at this function Mr. Councillor W. A. Slade, Chairman of the Twickenham Urban District Council, addressed the members, extending to them a cordial welcome to Twickenham. Mr. A. Kirby Gill (Librarian) then invited the party to view the library and to examine the methods of administration, and some time was occupied very profitably in this way.

The business meeting was held in the Lecture Room, Mr. Gill presiding.

The first business was the election of two members to audit the accounts of the Association for the year 1907-8. Messrs. Luke (Woolwich), McGill (Islington) and Perry (Leyton), were nominated, and the result of the voting was that Messrs. Luke and McGill were elected.

Mr. J. Frederick Hogg then read a paper on "The Central Control of Libraries and its Advantages," which is printed in this number.

Discussion.

Mr. Thorne thought Mr. Hogg had discussed details without giving any very cogent arguments in favour of the principle of central control. He believed some sort of centralisation was the solution of many problems at present confronting library authorities, but before it could come about there were difficulties to be overcome. One obstacle was the librarian and his staff. It was only natural that librarians should be opposed to the idea of sinking their individuality. On the other hand, under a central authority, the library system of London would be one huge machine instead of being made up of a number of small machines all working independently. A penny rate, if levied over the whole of London, would, he imagined, be sufficient to maintain the libraries in a state of efficiency. Uniformity, in the main, was most desirable. The London County Council, however, was not the body to control the libraries. Some other body would have to be created.

Mr. Stewart thought that while central control was undesirable in some ways, there was much to be said for it. It would not, however, lead to the uniformity suggested by Mr. Hogg. It would be no small task to bring all the libraries of London to a level, and if it were done it would tend to stagnation. He would not allocate the proceeds of the rate according to statistics of issue, because the librarian with the largest powers of imagination would get most money. A more scientific way was necessary, a population basis, for instance.

Mr. Sayers said the objections to central control appeared to him to outbalance the advantages. Emphatically the London County Council was not the body to be entrusted with the administration of the libraries. Perhaps in the future the educational and library authorities would be amalgamated. He doubted whether uniformity was to be desired. The analogy used was the educational system, but to his mind the present system of elementary education in London was questionable. Children were educated according to a code, and teachers were bound by a code. Similarly, if libraries were controlled by a central authority, they would have to conform to a code.

Mr. Coutts was of opinion that Mr. Hogg's scheme was utopian; the principles seemed good, but when they came to look into the practical working of the scheme there were many difficulties. What they wanted was State recognition. If there was to be centralisation it should be on a national and not on a local basis.

Mr. Hawkins thought central control would be an advantage so far as Reference Library work was concerned. Funds would

be released which at present were being expended in the unnecessary duplication of books, and overlapping would be prevented.

Mr. Gill said they had listened to a most interesting paper. Some scheme of uniformity was bound to come. Sir A. Rucker, at the last meeting of the Library Association, spoke of the difficulties experienced by the University of London with regard to their valuable libraries, and they had overcome those difficulties much in the way suggested in the paper. The trend of the discussion had been to regard the question from the point of view of the officials, or the internal. They must look at it from the point of view of the public, or the external. The question was: How could the libraries of London best serve the public? He suggested that the answer was by adopting some uniform scheme.

Mr. Young moved a vote of thanks to the reader of the paper. He thought Mr. Sayers was ill-advised in attacking the present system of elementary education. The education of the Board Schools had steadily improved since their establishment in 1870, and would continue to improve. The discussion had chiefly centred round the possibility of stagnation. Central control would tend to level up, not to level down, therefore there must be an improvement.

Mr. Cooper seconded the vote of thanks, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. Hogg, in his acknowledgment, replied to some of the points raised by the various speakers. On the whole the discussion had taken a selfish turn. He advocated central control in the interest of the public, not of the officials. He admitted that the present London County Council was overworked, and he would prefer to go back to the days when there was a separate Education authority, and to hand over to such a body the care of the libraries. His reason for suggesting that the fund for maintenance should be allocated according to work done, rather than on a population basis, was that frequently small boroughs with small incomes accomplished more than the larger and richer boroughs. Battersea, for example, with a population of 168,907 and an income of £4,435, issued 347,934 volumes annually, while Kensington, with a population of 176,628 and an income of £9,956, only issued 175,148 volumes. In this instance the reason was that the inhabitants of Kensington could afford to subscribe to the various circulating libraries. He was sorry Mr. Sayers had spoken disparagingly of the work of school teachers. There were good teachers who did all they could to make lessons interesting, and there were bad librarians who were not doing all they might do for their

readers. A uniform system of cataloguing and classification would be of great benefit to readers.

A hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Gill for his cordial welcome and for presiding, to the Rev. Preb. H. P. Prosser for his hospitality, and to the Library Committee for permitting the Association to meet at Twickenham, was carried by acclamation and acknowledged by Mr. Gill.

In our announcement of this meeting we stated that it would be the first visit of the Association to Twickenham. This, we are informed, was an error, as a meeting was held there many years ago, when the members were received by Mr. E. Maynard, the late Librarian and present Secretary to the Committee.

SOUTH WALES BRANCH.

On the afternoon of Wednesday, May 6th, the Branch held a meeting at the Penarth Public Library, by kind permission of the Committee of the Library. There was a good attendance, and prior to the meeting many of the members visited Turner House, a semi-private art gallery within a few minutes' walk of the Library building.

Mr. J. M. Jennings, J.P., Chairman of the Penarth Committee, cordially welcomed the members. Mr. John Ballinger (Chief Librarian, Cardiff), President of the Branch, who took the chair during the first stages of the meeting, in replying, thanked Mr. Jennings, and spoke of the good feeling which had always existed between the Committees and Staffs of the Cardiff and Penarth Public Libraries.

Mr. Harry Farr (Deputy Librarian, Cardiff), then delivered an address on "Classification and the Elementary Principles of the Dewey Decimal System." In the discussion which followed, Messrs. Williams, Rees and Padfield, and several members of the Penarth Committee took part.

After the address Mr. Jennings invited the members to partake of tea. The meeting closed with the passing of a vote of thanks to the Chairman and members of the Penarth Committee for their courteous invitation and hospitality.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

A meeting was held at Dewsbury on Wednesday, April 29th. The members were kindly entertained to tea at the Park Mansion by the Library Committee, Mr. John Birkhead presiding over this function.

The business meeting was held at the Public Library. Mr. G. W. Strother (Leeds) was in the chair and members were present from Leeds, Bradford, Barnsley, Wakefield, Harrogate and Dewsbury.

Mr. J. B. Ellison (Leeds) read a paper on "Reading Lists." He urged that it was not sufficient for books to be purchased, catalogued, and shelved; their proper place was in the hands of the people. It had been proved that where reading lists were issued, there had been a distinct improvement in the character of the reading and an increased use of the library.

Mr. Ellison proceeded to deal with three kinds of lists: Technical, Special and Permanent. The first-named were those compiled for Technical Schools and for students. Great care should be taken with the annotation of these, and in many cases it was advisable to seek assistance from an authority on the subject treated. Special lists were compiled to draw attention to subjects of current interest. All lists should be annotated.

Mr. F. J. Taylor (Barnsley) then read a paper on "The Juvenile Department." The ideal juvenile department, he said, would be in a room apart from the adult library. It should be worked in conjunction with the school. The department should consist of a lending and a reference library, with reading room, and one of the best-trained male assistants should be in charge. The rules should be framed in language that could easily be understood by the children. Instead of fines for the detention of books he would suspend the ticket for a short period. Fines, when not paid by the parents, were often the cause of children ceasing to use the library. The books for this department should be selected with great care. Books of a "goody-goody" kind and "cribs" should be avoided.

In the discussion which followed some of the speakers disagreed with Mr. Taylor that a male assistant should be in charge of the department.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Dewsbury Public Library Committee for allowing the use of the room, and Mr. Birkhead responded.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of "The Library Assistant."

Library Association Examination.

Sir,—In your further paragraph *re* the number of marks requisite to ensure a pass in the L.A. Examination, no mention is made of the essay: it would be interesting to know to what extent that portion of the examination affects the whole.

There is also the question as to how many of the essays submitted are the actual work of the candidates. I know of cases where the scheme of the essays has been drawn up by the chief or sub-librarian, who have also acted as advisers and editors. There is nothing wrong in a candidate seeking information from his superiors any more than from a book; but to have the essay thus practically written in its entirety is manifestly dishonest and unfair, primarily to those who are honest enough to submit their own work, and also to those working under incompetent or indifferent officers. To know what standpoint the examiners take on this matter would be interesting.

Z.

Library Assistants' Association.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

The retiring Committee presents the Thirteenth Annual Report.

Membership.

The increase in the membership which proved so striking a feature of the last Annual Report has been more than maintained this year. The last Report gives 321 as the membership; this year we can record 417 members. This number includes the first members of the newly-formed North Eastern Branch, the numbers of which will probably increase in the near future. This gain of 96 on last year's membership is, the Committee hopes, an earnest of greater increase in the coming Session. Although it is recognised that only the most effective assistants can be expected to join a professional association, there is still reason to believe that the membership should be much larger, especially when the number of library assistants in the kingdom, estimated at a little under 6,000, is remembered.

The point the Committee wishes to emphasise is that the Association grows steadily from year to year, and there is little doubt that within a few years it will become representative in the widest sense.

Branches.

Last year the formation of two new Branches was recorded as the most significant fact in the year's working. It is with pleasure that the Committee records the establishment of two more Branches. The South Wales Branch, having its centre at Cardiff, was established in March, 1908, as a result of the enthusiasm of Messrs. Farr, Morgan, and Fielding, of that city, and of the encouragement and approval vouchsafed it by its Hon. President, Mr. John Ballinger. At present the membership is limited to the Cardiff library staff, but there is every hope that this may be extended to the other Welsh and Monmouthshire towns. The North Eastern Branch is a development in Northumberland and Durham which took place in April last, when, at a meeting of the Northumberland and Durham Association of Assistant Librarians the new Branch was unanimously resolved upon. The Committee desires to acknowledge the enthusiasm and co-operation of the officers of the N. and D. A.A.L., Messrs. Herdman and Pearson, and of Messrs.

Walton, Gibson, Turnbull, and many other well-known northern assistant librarians in bringing about this desirable result. The Irish and Yorkshire Branches have met regularly during the year, and a glance at the subjects of the papers discussed, listed on page 148 will convince that they are doing work which must be beneficial to the members themselves and to the libraries they serve. The Committee regrets to record the resignation of Mr. W. E. Owen, the Hon. Treasurer of the Yorkshire Branch, and that of Mr. T. M. Coulson, the Hon. Secretary of the Irish Branch. Both gentlemen were pioneers in their respective Branches and both held their offices with great credit to themselves and to the Association. A feature of the year was the appointment of delegates to attend Meetings of the Branches. Your Chairman and Hon. Secretary attended the First Annual Meeting of the Yorkshire Branch at Leeds in December, the Hon. Secretary the Inaugural of the South Wales Branch at Cardiff in March, and the latter has also been delegated to attend the Inaugural of the North Eastern Branch at Newcastle on June 3rd. These visits have been extremely successful, and have been useful to the Committee in bringing the central body into touch with local conditions. Reports of the delegates have appeared in "*The Library Assistant*." From the foregoing it will be seen that the Association now covers a very wide area. There is still room, however, for Branches in the great districts of Birmingham and the North Western Counties, while Scotland is entirely without any Association. It is true that the North Western Counties are served by the Manchester and District Library Assistants' Fellowship, the Secretary of which the Committee is glad to recognise as a member of the Association; but, while rejoicing in its work, the Committee would be glad to see it become a Branch. The Committee would be pleased to hear of library assistants in the districts mentioned who would care to assist in the formation of Branches.

Sessional Programme.

The Sessional Programme has been carried out with very minor alterations, all the papers announced having been read. Acknowledgment is due to all those ladies and gentlemen who have contributed to the proceedings, and the Committee is assured that the general excellence of the papers and discussions has been equal to, if it did not surpass, previous years. Special thanks are due for hospitality to the authorities whose institutions are mentioned in the annexed programme, and to Messrs. H. D. Roberts (Brighton), R. W. Frazer, LL.B. (London Institution), R. W. Mould, F.S.A. (Southwark), Law-

rence Inkster, Hon. F.L.A. (Battersea), E. M. Borrajo (Guildhall), Wynne E. Baxter, D.L., J.P., and George Preece (Stoke Newington), Samuel Martin (Hammersmith), W. G. Snowsill (Camberwell), A. Kirby Gill (Twickenham), and the Islington Libraries Club. The Committee also wishes to thank the authorities and librarians who have offered hospitality to the Branch Associations. It is a matter of encouragement that the Association has received such cordial support from so many authorities and librarians.

Afternoon Visits.

Visits were made during the Session to St. Bride Institute, where Messrs. Charles Harrap and R. A. Peddie conducted the members over the building and explained the library and the various departments of the Institute, and to St. Paul's Cathedral Library, where the members were received by the Librarian, the Rev. W. P. Besley, M.A. Both visits were of great interest, and the Committee thanks the gentlemen named for their courtesy.

Excursions and Recreations.

The visit to Brighton on July 3rd, 1907, was one of the most successful functions of the year; over 100 members and friends were present; and the Annual Cricket Match, on August 28th, again attracted a considerable number of our members. Again, it is gratifying to record, the Annual Dinner on November 20th was a complete success socially and financially, and great credit is due to the Hon. Treasurer for his excellent arrangements in connection with it. A largely-attended Conversazione was held at the St. Bride Institute on May 27th.

"The Library Assistant."

"The Library Assistant" has appeared regularly throughout the year, under the direction of Mr. Hugh Smith. Our proceedings have now so multiplied that the limited size of the journal is keenly felt. The retiring Committee recommends that, if funds permit, the journal be increased by four pages. The Committee wishes to acknowledge the good services of Mr. G. A. Stephen, as Sub-Editor, and in the preparation of the index to volume five.

Finance.

The finances of the Association are still satisfactory. However, many more members' subscriptions and advertisements in "The Library Assistant" are needed if the work of the Association is to be enlarged to any extent.

Registration.

The most important question the Committee has had under discussion has been that of the Professional Registration of Librarians. A Report (see "The Library Assistant," vol. 6, p. 78), was adopted, asking the Library Association to keep a Register, and as a result of this and a resolution passed at the Joint Meeting of the L.A. and L.A.A., on January 22nd, the L.A. has appointed a Committee, which is still sitting, to consider the whole question.

Promotions.

The Hon. Assistant Secretary, Mr. W. A. Peplow, has been appointed librarian of Wood Green, and the Committee wishes to record its congratulations, and to acknowledge Mr. Peplow's good services for two years as an officer of the Committee. Mr. T. W. Huck has been appointed librarian of the Literary and Scientific Institution, Saffron Walden, and many other of our members have received promotion. To these the Committee tenders its congratulations.

Acknowledgments.

The Committee records its thanks to the Governors of the Bishopsgate Institute and Cripplegate Institute respectively, for accommodation for Committee Meetings throughout the year.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,

W. BENSON THORNE, Chairman.

W. C. BERWICK SAYERS, Hon. Secretary.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

W. Benson Thorne, Bromley Library, Poplar.

Vice-Chairman :

Hugh Smith, Bishopsgate Institute. *Resigned July, 1907.*
Henry T. Coutts, North Branch Library, Islington. *Elected July, 1907.*

Hon. Treasurer :

W. Geo. Chambers, Public Library, Plumstead.

Hon. Editor :

Hugh Smith, Bishopsgate Institute.

Hon. Assistant Editor :

Geo. A. Stephen, Highgate Library, St. Pancras.

Hon. Librarian :

A. H. Carter, St. Martin's Library, Westminster.

Hon. Secretary :

W. C. Berwick Sayers, Central Library, Croydon.

Hon. Assistant Secretary :

William A. Peplow, Central Library, Croydon.

COMMITTEE.

Education Sub-Committee :

J. G. Faraday, Stroud Green Library, Hornsey. *Resigned December, 1907.*

W. G. Hawkins, Central Library, Fulham. *Chairman.*

William A. Peplow, Central Library, Croydon. *Hon. Secretary.*

*W. C. Berwick Sayers, Central Library, Croydon.

*†Geo. A. Stephen, Highgate Library, St. Pancras.

Hugh Stevenson, Central Library, Bournemouth.

*†James D. Stewart, Central Library, Islington.

Geo. W. Strother, Central Library, Leeds. *Elected March, 1908.*

*W. Benson Thorne, Bromley Library, Poplar. *Ex-officio.*

*James D. Young, Public Library, Greenwich.

Finance and General Purposes Sub-Committee :

E. J. Bell, Central Library, Fulham.

*†W. Geo. Chambers, Public Library, Plumstead. *Hon. Secretary.*

*†Henry T. Coutts, North Library, Islington.

Miss M. Harrison, Central Library, Leeds.

*J. Frederick Hogg, Central Library, Battersea. *Chairman.*

*Evan G. Rees, Public Library, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

*W. Benson Thorne, Bromley Library, Poplar. *Ex-officio.*

Publications Sub-Committee.

*R. F. Bullen, Bow Library, Poplar. *Chairman.*

Harry Fostall, Public Library, Sunderland.

William Law, Public Library, Brighton.

James Ross, Public Library, Sunderland.

H. W. Poulter, Central Library, Walthamstow.

†Hugh Smith, Bishopsgate Institute, *Hon. Secretary.*

H. G. Sureties, Shepherd's Hill Library, Hornsey.

W. Benson Thorne, Bromley Library, Poplar. *Ex-officio.*

Co-opted Members:

Thomas M. Coulson, Belfast. *Hon. Secretary, Irish Branch.*

J. B. Ellison, Leeds. *Hon. Secretary, Yorkshire Branch.*

Harry Farr, Cardiff. *Chairman, South Wales Branch.*

Social Sub-Committee: Co-opted Members:

Miss R. L. Duménil, Central Library, Hackney.

Miss M. Gilbert, North Library, Fulham.

Miss M. E. Griffiths, Central Library, Islington.

Miss M. Turner, Central Library, Islington.

*Member of Registration Sub-Committee.

†Member of Social Sub-Committee.

ATTENDANCES OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE.

| NAME. | GENERAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS. | | SUB- COMMITTEE MEETINGS. | | TOTAL OF MEETINGS. | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------|
| | Conv'd. | Attn'd | Conv'd. | Attn'd | Conv'd. | Attn'd |
| Bell, E. J. ... | 10 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 20 | 10 |
| Bullen, R. F. ... | 10 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 24 | 24 |
| Chambers, W. G. ... | 10 | 10 | 16 | 16 | 26 | 26 |
| Coutts, H. T. ... | 10 | 8 | 16 | 14 | 26 | 24 |
| Faraday, J. G. ... | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 2 |
| Fostall, H. ... | 8 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 16 | 10 |
| Hawkins, W. G. ... | 10 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 16 |
| Hogg, J. F. ... | 10 | 8 | 14 | 12 | 24 | 20 |
| Peplow, W. A. ... | 10 | 5 | 10 | 5 | 20 | 10 |
| Poulter, H. W. ... | 10 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 16 |
| Rees, E. G. ... | 10 | 5 | 12 | 7 | 22 | 12 |
| Sayers, W. C. B. ... | 10 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 24 | 24 |
| Smith, H. ... | 10 | 8 | 12 | 10 | 22 | 18 |
| Stephen, G. A. ... | 10 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 24 | 22 |
| Stewart, J. D. ... | 10 | 10 | 16 | 16 | 26 | 26 |
| Sureties, H. G. ... | 10 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 16 |
| Thorne, W. B. ... | 10 | 10 | 16 | 16 | 26 | 26 |
| Young, J. D. ... | 10 | 9 | 14 | 13 | 24 | 22 |

Attendances of Members of Committee without a 12 miles radius of London are not recorded.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1907-8.

| Receipts. | Expenditure. |
|--|--|
| Balance | £ s. d. |
| Members' Subscriptions | 15 17 11 |
| Do. Branches | 48 15 0 |
| Advertisements in, and sale of "The Library Assistant" | 12 9 9 |
| Do. " | 27 16 1 |
| Sale of Dinner Tickets | 8 4 6 |
| | £113 3 3 |
| | £ s. d. |
| | Printing (including "The Library Assistant") |
| | Postages |
| | Stationery |
| | Cost of Annual Dinner |
| | Miscellaneous |
| | Balance |
| | £113 3 3 |

Audited by us and found correct—

ERNEST LUKE,
WILLIAM MCGILL,

}) Auditors.

W. GEO. CHAMBERS,
Hon. Treasurer.

May 23rd, 1908.

PROGRAMME OF SESSION, 1907-8.

Michaelmas Term.

- Oct. 16. Inaugural meeting at London Institution. Frank Pacy, Esq. (Chief Librarian, Westminster Public Libraries), in the chair. Address by PROF. ISRAEL GOLLANZ, M.A., Litt.D.
- Nov. 13. At Newington Public Library, Southwark.
Paper: Mr. H. R. Purnell (Croydon). "Local Literature and its Collection."
- Dec. 11. At Battersea Public Library.
Conference on "The Education of the Library Assistant," contributed to by Miss M. Gilbert (Fulham), Mr. H. T. Coutts (Islington), and Mr. W. Benson Thorne (Poplar).
Paper: Mr. R. Wright (Croydon). "Staff Guilds, Clubs and Reading Circles."

Lent and Summer Term.

- Jan. 8. Inaugural meeting at the Guildhall Library. Edward M. Borrajo, Esq. (Guildhall Librarian), in the chair. Address by HENRY GUPPY, Esq., M.A.
- Jan. 22. At the London School of Economics. Joint meeting with the Library Association. Paper: Messrs. L. Stanley Jast and W. C. Berwick Sayers. "Registration: a Criticism and a Suggestion."
- Feb. 12. At Stoke Newington Public Library.
Paper: Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers (Croydon). "The Principles of Classification."
- Mar. 12. At Hammersmith Public Library.
Papers: Mr. J. D. Stewart (Islington). "Preliminaries in starting a Library."
Mr. C. E. Thomas (Bishopsgate Institute). "Information Hunting."
- Apr. 18. At Camberwell Public Library.
Papers: Mr. J. D. Young (Greenwich). "Fugitive Bibliography in relation to Book Selection."
Miss Olive E. Clarke (Islington). "Learning to Catalogue."
- May 13th. At Twickenham Public Library.
Paper: Mr. J. Frederick Hogg (Battersea). "The Central Control of Libraries and its Advantages."
- June 10th. Thirteenth Annual Meeting, at Islington Central Library.
Paper: Mr. G. W. Strother (Leeds, President of the Yorkshire Branch). "The Library Assistants' Outlook from a Provincial point of view."
Annual Business Meeting.

AFTERNOON VISITS AND RECREATIONS.

1907.

- July 3. Excursion to Brighton and visit to Public Library, Museum and Art Gallery, as guests of H. D. Roberts, Esq.
- Aug. 28. Annual Cricket Match at Regent's Park. Library Assistants North of the Thames *versus* Library Assistants South of the Thames.

- Nov. 18. Visit to St. Bride Foundation Institute, as guests of Messrs. Charles Harrap and R. A. Peddie.
- Nov. 20. Annual Dinner, Anderton's Hotel, E.C.
- Dec. 11. Visit to St. Paul's Cathedral Library, as guests of Rev. R. P. Besley, M.A.
- 1908.**
- May 27. Conversazione and Dance, St. Bride Foundation Institute.
-

YORKSHIRE BRANCH MEETINGS.

1907.

- Sept. 25. At the Central Public Library, Hull.
Paper: Mr. James G. Sleight (Hull), "The National Home Reading Union."
- Dec. 5. At the Central Public Library, Leeds.
First Annual Meeting.
- 1908.**
- Feb. 13. At the Central Public Library, Bradford.
Paper: Mr. W. C. Smith (Dewsbury), "Indicators."
Paper by Messrs. L. Stanley Jast and W. C. Berwick Sayers on "Registration" read and discussed.
- Apl. 29. At the Public Library, Dewsbury.
Papers: Mr. F. J. Taylor (Barnsley). "Juvenile Departments."
Mr. J. B. Ellison (Leeds). "Reading Lists."
-

IRISH BRANCH MEETINGS.

1907.

- Oct. 9. Inaugural Meeting at the Central Public Library, Belfast.
Address by G. H. Elliott, Esq., Chief Librarian, Belfast.
- Nov. 13. At the Falls Road Branch Library, Belfast.
Papers: Mr. R. J. Gourley (Belfast), "Staff Relations."
Mr. J. Scott (Belfast), "Juvenile Rooms."
- Dec. 11. At the Ballymacarrett Branch Library, Belfast.
Papers: Mr. D. Simpson (Belfast), "The Use and Abuse of Works of Fiction."
Mr. W. Moore (Belfast), "The Rate Limit."

1908.

- Feb. 12. At the Central Library, Belfast.
Papers: Mr. A. H. E. Moore (Belfast), "The British Museum Cataloguing Rules."
Miss N. Farrell (Belfast Municipal Technical Institute), "Education and its Relation to Public Libraries."
- Mar. 12. At the Central Library, Belfast.
Paper by Messrs. L. Stanley Jast and W. C. Berwick Sayers on "Registration" read and discussed.
- Apl. 15. At the Central Library, Belfast.
Paper: Mr. T. Coulson (Belfast), "Biblioclasm."
Discussion on the question "Do we spend too much on News-rooms?"

LIST OF MEMBERS.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Samuel J. Clarke, Public Library, Penge.
 Bertram L. Dyer, Public Library, Kimberley.
 Thomas Greenwood, Frith Knowl, Elstree, Herts.
 J. Y. W. McAlister, F.S.A., 20, Hanover Square, W.
 Henry Ogle, Public Library, Ipswich.
 R. A. Peddie, St. Bride Foundation Institute, E.C.
 F. Meaden Roberts, Public Library, Whitechapel.
 H. D. Roberts, Public Library, Brighton.
 Geo. E. Roebuck, Public Library, Walthamstow.
 H. Tapley Soper, F.R.Hist.S., Public Library, Exeter.
 Charles Welch, F.S.A., 437, Seven Sisters Road, N.

ORDINARY MEMBERS.

*Signifies senior member.

- Aitken, Miss V. A., Islington.
 *Anderson, A. R., Port Elizabeth.
 *Annis, R., Patent Office.
 Avery, A. J., Erith.
 *Ayton, J. G., Glasgow.
 *Bain, R., Glasgow.
 Ballingall, W. S., Camberwell.
 *Barlow, H., Royal College of Physicians.
 *Barr, J., Glasgow.
 *Batty, T. W. E., Fulham.
 *Bell, E. J., Fulham.
 Bird, C. H., Woolwich.
 Bishop, E., Enfield.
 Blackwell, P. E., Carlisle.
 Blakey, A. A., Bermondsey.
 Bobbit, Miss E. E., Islington.
 *Bolton, G. R., St. Pancras.
 Bond, A. G., Gravesend.
 *Bonner, F. H., Croydon.
 Bower, H., Poplar.
 *Bradley, C. A., Glasgow.
 Braine, W. S., East Ham.
 *Bridge, W. R., Battersea.
 Bristow, J., East Ham.
 Broadhurst, H. P., Stockport.
 Brown, R. L., Wimbledon.
 *Bullen, R. F., Poplar.
 *Bursill, P. C., Woolwich.
 *Bushnell, F. C., Fulham.
 *Camplin, P. W., Heston-Isleworth.
 Carlisle, A. D., Woolwich.
 *Carpenter, H., Fulham.
 *Carter, A. H., Westminster.
 *Carter, E. G. H., Deptford.
 *Carter, W. A., Cripplegate Institute.
 *Chambers, W. G., Woolwich.

- Chappell, Miss K., Islington.
 *Checketts, H. W., Birmingham University.
 *Clarke, M., Hornsey.
 Clarke, Miss O. E., Islington.
 *Clinch, C. H., Ealing.
 *Cogswell, A., Wandsworth.
 *Cooper, R., Battersea.
 Cornwall, F. W., Croydon.
 *Cousins, L. H., Wandsworth.
 *Coufts, H. T., Islington.
 *Craft, A. G., Kensal Rise.
 *Crockford, A. W., Richmond.
 *Crook, B., Leyton.
 *Dallimore, F., Wimbledon.
 *Darby, J. C., Institution of Civil Engineers.
 *Davis, A. H., Southampton.
 *Davison, C. E., Bermondsey.
 Denne, G. E., Richmond.
 *Denton, A., Chelsea.
 Dixon, C. E., Croydon.
 Dixon, H., Croydon.
 *Dixon, Miss L., Leyton.
 Dodd, E. C., Hornsey.
 *Dovey, L. J., Westminster.
 *Duménil, Miss R. L., Hackney.
 Dunn, A. C., Cheltenham.
 Easlea, W. A., Bishopsgate Institute.
 *Edward, D. E., Dundee.
 *Edwards, A. H., Liverpool.
 *Eidmans, F., Bermondsey.
 *Ewing, L. M., Glasgow.
 *Fairweather, Miss L., Islington.
 *Faraday, J. G., Hornsey.
 *Farrow, P. E., Lewisham.
 Fisher, S. H., East Ham.
 *Fletcher, E. G., Stepney.

- Funnell, E. A., Deptford.
 Funnell, Miss H. A., Islington.
 *Garner, E. W., Southwark.
 Garrett, A., Westminster.
 Gerard, Miss E., Worthing.
 *Gibson, S., M.A., Oxford
 (Bodleian).
 *Gilbert, Miss M., Fulham.
 Glenn, F., Harlesden.
 Goulden, H., Torquay.
 Green, A. C., Poplar.
 *Green, T., Shoreditch.
 Griffiths, Miss M. E., Islington.
 *Groom, H., Harlesden.
 *Hamblin, A. M., Eastbourne.
 *Hardy, W., Burton-on-Trent.
 *Harman, F. T., Camberwell.
 *Harper, B. J., Stoke Newington.
 Harradine, F. C., Poplar.
 *Harris, C. A., Deptford.
 Harris, L. B., Lewisham.
 *Harrison, S. E., Cheltenham.
 *Hatcher, A. F., Bolton.
 *Hawkins, W. G., Fulham.
 Haworth, A. J., Chorley.
 *Hayward, G. V. R., Watford.
 Henderson, H., Walthamstow.
 Henshaw, R., East Ham.
 *Higgs, R. W., Southend.
 *Hobbs, H. J., Enfield.
 *Hogg, J. F., Battersea.
 Holker, H., Eccles.
 *Holmes, H., Handsworth.
 *Hopwood, H. V., Patent Office.
 Hull, H. W., Fulham.
 Irving, T., Glasgow.
 *Jackson, C. P., Woolwich.
 Jacobs, J. V., Kingston.
 Jenkins, L. D., Poplar.
 *Jones, G. P., Stepney.
 Kidd, A., Woolwich.
 King, Miss F., Islington.
 Kingston, Miss H. M., Islington.
 *Kirby, S., Hornsey.
 Kitchener, S. W., Hornsey.
 *Knight, F. J., Lewisham.
 Lamb, E. A., Greenwich.
 Laughton, S., Derby.
 *Law, W., Brighton.
 *Lawler, E. A., Westminster.
 *Lea, Miss E., Wigan.
 *Lewin, P. E., 2, Castle Road,
 Bedford.
 Lidbetter, Miss R. M., Islington.
 *Lillie, R., Swindon (G.W.R.
 Institute).
 Lovelace, G., Wimbledon.
 *Luke, E., Woolwich.
 Lundie, P., Fulham.
 McColvin, N., Croydon.
 *McCombe, A. C., East Ham.
 *McDouall, W. B., Hammersmith.
 *McGill, W., Islington.
 McLaren, F. W., Walthamstow.
 *Male, E., Brighton.
 Mallett, H. R., Cambridge
 University.
 Marchant, Miss M., Fulham.
 *Martin, E. S., Twickenham.
 *Mash, M. H. B., Croydon.
 *Matthews, E. H., Exeter.
 Mills, F. V., Croydon.
 Mitchell, Miss C., Islington.
 *Moon, Miss J. B., Leyton.
 *Moors, B. R., Portsmouth.
 Morgan, Miss N. A., Islington.
 *Mortimore, P. J., Camberwell.
 *Moslin, A. M., Stepney.
 Murphy, S. B., Hanwell.
 Neame, C. E., Canterbury.
 *Niven, D., Bulawayo.
 Norman, H. J., Lewisham.
 *Norman, S. C., Wandsworth.
 *Norrie, J., Glasgow.
 Nowell, C., Kendal.
 *Ormerod, J., Nelson.
 Padfield, C. J. C., Greenwich.
 Palmer, F. B., Greenwich.
 *Parker, E. J. C., Institution
 Civil Engineers.
 Parker, S. J., Bishopsgate In-
 stitute.
 *Parker, W. H., Hackney.
 *Parsons, E. H., Glasgow.
 Peacock, R. L., Croydon.
 Peppiette, E. A., Birmingham
 University.
 *Perry, J. D., Leyton.
 *Peters, H. R. W., Lewisham.
 Philpott, G. R., Stepney.
 Pickering, G. H., Gainsborough.
 *Piper, A. C., Brighton.
 *Poulter, H. W., Walthamstow.
 *Powell, T. W., Kingston.
 Preece, J. F., St. Pancras.
 *Purnell, H. R., Croydon.
 Radley, R. H., East Ham.
 *Rathbone, B. E., Northampton.
 Redgrave, S. J., Croydon.
 *Rees, E. G., Westminster.

- Rees, W., Battersea.
 *Richardson, A. N., Lewisham.
 *Rivers, J., Hampstead.
 Robarts, H. M., Walthamstow.
 Robeson, W. J., Penge.
 *Robinson, F., Ipswich.
 *Robinson, S. C., Greenwich.
 Ruffy, A. W., Fulham.
 Sawtell, H., Wimbledon.
 *Sayers, W. C. B., Croydon.
 Searson, J., Glasgow.
 Seeley, W. T., King's Norton.
 *Seidel, F. L., Kensal Rise.
 *Seward, F., Bromley, Kent.
 *Shaw, J. H., Bury.
 *Shawcross, W. H., Woolwich.
 Silver, F., Woolwich.
 Sims, A., Bournemouth.
 Slight, E. T., Lewisham.
 Smart, O., Camberwell.
 *Smith, H., Bishopsgate Inst.
 Smith, W. T., Wimbledon.
 Smither, R. E., Brighton.
 Sparks, H. G., Kensington.
 *Staples, S. M., Willesden Green.
 *Stephen, G. A., St. Pancras.
 *Stevens, H., Camberwell.
 *Stevenson, H., Bournemouth.
 Stevenson, Miss W. E., Islington.
 Steward, A. S., Deptford.
 *Stewart, J. D., Islington.
 Stewart, W. D., Croydon.
 *Stone, O. W., East Ham.
 *Sumner, B. E., Hampstead.
 *Sunley, W. H., Leyton.
 *Sureties, H. G., Hornsey.
- *Sutton, O. J., Manchester
 (John Rylands).
 *Swift, R. E., Ealing.
 *Tempest, H., Bootle.
 *Terry, E., Greenwich.
 Thomas, Miss A., Fulham.
 Thomas, C. E., Bishopsgate Institute.
 *Thorne, W. B., Poplar.
 Tighe, D. W., Stratford.
 Tomlinson, H. W., East Ham.
 *Toole, L., Battersea.
 Toyne, W. P., Hornsey.
 *Turner, H. J., Westminster.
 Twort, H. A., Croydon.
 Vale, G. F., Stepney.
 *Verney, Sir E., Claydon House, Winslow.
 *Waite, C. H., Kensington.
 Wakeman, F., Kidderminster.
 Waldron, F. S., Plymouth.
 Wale, J. H., Woolwich.
 *Webb, A., Brighton.
 *Welch, H. C., Guildhall, London.
 *Wells, C., King's Norton.
 *White, G. H., Fulham.
 *Whitelocke, H., Lewisham.
 Whiteside, Miss E., Islington.
 Williams, Miss L., Bangor.
 Williamson, A. R., Lewisham.
 *Wood, D. E., London Univ.
 *Wood, R. B., Westminster.
 Wright, A. J., Stepney.
 Wright, R., Croydon.
 *Wrigley, M. J., Stockport.
 Young, D. S., East Ham.
 *Young, J. D., Greenwich.

YORKSHIRE BRANCH.

Hon. Presidents:

J. A. Charlton Deas, Sunderland.
 A. Furnish, York.
 Thomas W. Hand, Leeds.
 W. F. Lawton, Hull.

A. Tait, Leeds Institute.
 Councillor G. Thompson,
 Huddersfield.
 Butler Wood, Bradford.

President:

G. W. Strother, Public Library, Leeds.

Hon. Treasurer:

W. Procter, Armley Branch Library, Leeds.

Hon. Secretary:

J. B. Ellison, Public Library, Leeds.

Committee:

F. Broadhurst, Sheffield.
 Miss Harrison, Leeds.
 E. Hunter, Hull.
 F. Jarrett, Huddersfield.
 Miss Mitchell, Keighley.

J. G. Sleight, Hull.
 W. C. Smith, Dewsbury.
 F. J. Taylor, Barnsley.
 Miss Vernon, Wakefield.

Members:

*Allison, E., Hull.
 *Atkinson, W. H., Bradford.
 Baines, Miss E., Leeds.
 *Barracough, W. H., Bradford.
 Berridge, Miss N., Leeds.
 Blenkinsop, Miss F., Bradford.
 *Broadhurst, F., Sheffield.
 Bryant, S., York.
 *Brunt, H. S., Sheffield Univ.
 Calam, Miss M., Leeds.
 Chaloner, Miss C. L., Leeds.
 *Dean, A., Hull.
 *Ellison, J. B., Leeds.
 Freegarde, Miss E., Leeds.
 Greenwood, E. M., Leeds.
 Hainsworth, Miss B., Leeds.
 Hand, Miss E. M., Leeds.
 *Handby, J. C., Bradford.
 Harrison, Miss M., Leeds.
 Howcroft, Miss E. E., Leeds.
 *Hunter, E., Hull.
 *Jackson, C. H., Sheffield.
 Jackson, T. R., Dewsbury.
 *Jarrett, F., Huddersfield.
 *Johnson, C. A., Sheffield.
 Lunn, T. D., Leeds Inst.
 Major, Miss E. E., Leeds.
 Mitchell, Miss B., Keighley.
 Nowell, Miss M., Bradford.
 O'Keefe, Miss A. M., Bradford.

Orford, Miss N., Bradford.
 *Owen, W. E., Leeds.
 Parsons, R., Bradford.
 Pickering, Miss, Leeds.
 *Pollard, S., Sheffield.
 *Procter, W., Leeds.
 Rasmuss, J. R., Bradford.
 Roberts, Miss N., Leeds.
 Scaife, Miss A., Leeds.
 Scott, Miss A., Leeds.
 Seanor, Miss G., Harrogate.
 Secker, Miss O., Leeds.
 Shakleton, Miss F., Bradford.
 *Sharphouse, D., Leeds.
 *Sleight, J. G., Hull.
 *Smith, W. C., Dewsbury.
 Stewart, Miss A., Leeds.
 Strachan, D. L., Leeds.
 *Strother, G. W., Leeds.
 Symington, J. A., Leeds.
 Taylor, Miss B., Leeds.
 *Taylor, F. J., Barnsley.
 Thornhill, Miss E., Leeds.
 *Tomlinson, G. E., Leeds Inst.
 *Townsend, W., Hull.
 *Treliving, N., Leeds.
 Vernon, Miss L., Wakefield.
 Wallis, Miss A., Leeds.
 *Westerman, J. H., Hull.
 Whitley, Miss S. E., Leeds.

IRISH BRANCH.

THE ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS OF IRELAND.

Hon. President:

Sir James Henderson, M.A., D.L., J.P.

President:

G. H. Elliott, City Librarian, Belfast.

Vice-Presidents:

F. J. P. Burgoyne, Librarian, Linen Hall Library, Belfast.
 Prof. Gregory Smith, M.A., Professor of History and English
 Literature, and Librarian of Queen's College, Belfast.

Chairman:

R. J. Gourley, Public Library, Belfast.

Hon. Treasurer:

W. Rowan, Public Library, Belfast.

Hon. Secretary:

T. M. Coulson, Public Library, Belfast.

Committee:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| A. E. Atkinson. | W. Moore. |
| J. B. Goldsborough. | D. H. Simpson. |

Members:

| | |
|---|-------------------------------|
| *Atkinson, E. A., Belfast. | McGowan, L., Belfast. |
| *Coulson, T. M., Belfast. | *Miller, Miss J. F., Belfast. |
| Fagan, J., Belfast. | *Moore, A. H. E., Belfast. |
| Farrell, Miss N., Belfast (Municipal Technical Inst.) | Moore, W., Belfast. |
| *Goldsborough, J. B., Belfast. | *Robinson, S., Belfast. |
| Gorfunkle, F., Belfast. | *Rowan, W., Belfast. |
| *Gourley, R. J., Belfast. | Scilley, J., Belfast. |
| Lauder, W., Belfast. | *Scott, J. H., Belfast. |
| *Lavery, D. J., Belfast. | *Simpson, D. J. H., Belfast. |
| McConkey, J., Belfast. | Wilson, J., Belfast. |

SOUTH WALES BRANCH.**Hon. President:**

John Ballinger, Chief Librarian, Cardiff.

Chairman:

Harry Farr, Public Library, Cardiff.

Hon. Treasurer:

R. G. Williams, Public Library, Cardiff.

Hon. Secretary:

Wyndham Morgan, Public Library, Cardiff.

Members:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Alston, Miss, Cardiff. | Cowdry, W., Cardiff. |
| Boughton, H., Cardiff. | Davies, Miss E. O., Cardiff. |
| *Bullock, F. C., Cardiff. | Dovey, Miss E. J., Cardiff. |
| Butterworth, J. W., Cardiff. | *Evans, Miss L., Cardiff. |
| Chubb, L., Cardiff. | *Farr, H., Cardiff. |
| Conroy, S., Cardiff. | Fielding, V. J., Cardiff. |

Goldie, Miss M., Cardiff.
 *Jones, J. I., Cardiff.
 *Jones, Miss K. E., Cardiff.
 Kelk, Miss F., Cardiff.
 Mills, Miss H., Cardiff.
 *Morgan, W., Cardiff.
 *Newton, Miss F., Cardiff.
 *Padfield, W. O., Cardiff.
 Pearson, Miss E., Cardiff.

Perkins, Miss E., Cardiff.
 Pope, W. E. J., Cardiff.
 Pryce, Miss P., Cardiff.
 *Rees, E. J., Cardiff.
 *Richards, Miss G., Cardiff.
 Sexton, C., Cardiff.
 Taylor, Miss J., Cardiff.
 *Williams, R. G., Cardiff.
 Wilson, L. E., Cardiff.

NORTH EASTERN BRANCH.

Chairman :

D. W. Herdman, Public Library, Sunderland.

Vice-Chairman :

W. H. Gibson, Public Library, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Hon. Treasurer :

R. H. U. Howe, Public Library, Tynemouth.

Hon. Secretary :

T. E. Turnbull, Public Library, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Committee :

Miss M. A. Forman.
 Miss M. Pringle.

Mr. W. Wilson.

Mr. E. Pearson.
 Mr. J. Walton.

Members :

Armstrong, Miss E. A., Newcastle.
 *Briggs, J., Newcastle.
 *Brooks, Miss F., Newcastle.
 Burlaux, R., Newcastle.
 Cairns, R., Newcastle
 Clarke, G., Sunderland.
 Douglas, Miss E., Newcastle.
 Evers, Miss G., Newcastle.
 Fairer, W. A., Sunderland.
 *Forman, Miss M. A., Newcastle.
 *Fostall, H., Sunderland.
 Friends, W. F., Sunderland.
 *Gibson, W. H., Newcastle.
 Goldsmith, Miss H., Tynemouth.
 Gray, R. O., Newcastle.
 Green, Miss L., Newcastle.
 *Griffiths, H. H., Sunderland.
 Hayler, Miss E., Newcastle.
 *Hedley, T., Gateshead.
 *Herdman, D. W., Sunderland.
 *Howe, R. H. U., Tynemouth.
 Howe, W. W., Sunderland.

*Hurford, W. E., Newcastle.
 Lambert, J. W., Sunderland.
 Mackay, W., Newcastle.
 McLaughlin, Miss M., Newcastle.
 Miller, R. N. A., Newcastle.
 Mortimer, Miss M., Newcastle.
 Neylon, J. E., Newcastle.
 Pearson, E., Newcastle.
 Pringle, Miss M., Newcastle.
 *Ross, J., Sunderland.
 Scott, E. M., Newcastle.
 Smetten, W. H., Newcastle.
 *Turnbull, T. E., Newcastle.
 *Uttley, T. W., B.A., Newcastle.
 Walker, J. E., Gateshead.
 *Walton, J., Newcastle.
 Ward, Miss E., Newcastle.
 Waugh, R. W., Newcastle.
 Whorrod, Miss E., Gateshead.
 *Wilson, W., Gateshead.
 *Yates, A. H., Sunderland.
 *Zanetti, C., Newcastle.